

I Respectfully urge the FCC to reject the NAB's petition 04-160, that seeks to stop XM from providing XM Instant Traffic & Weather. I might support The Petition if XM Instant Traffic & Weather were the same as NAB stations; however, to be the same, NAB stations would need to:

(1) Broadcast traffic and weather continuously, rather than every 10 minutes or so. In case the advantage of "continuous" isn't obvious: (1) The first thing I do when awakening in the AM is to tune into to Channel 214 (Washington DC). Immediately I know the temperature outside, because XM displays it. In the mean time, my wife waits for the weather on "the ones" (every ten minutes) on NBC 4 TV. (2) When I want to know traffic conditions while traveling, the difference between instant and 10 minutes can be the difference between avoiding a traffic jam or not.

(2) Have one station nationwide for a given city's traffic. For example, when I drove to Philadelphia and back, I checked XM Traffic (and weather) stations for not only DC but also Baltimore and Philadelphia. In contrast, I don't even know what NAB member station offers traffic reports for those cities.

(3) Have excellent reception well before I reach a given city. When I returned from Philadelphia, I checked Baltimore traffic conditions a good 50 miles (less than an hour's drive) from Baltimore, and DC's traffic condition from Baltimore. I know of no NAB member who has a strong enough signal to do this, although I grant that if I researched extensively I might hear a static-laden station fifty miles north of that city.

(4) Subject me to far fewer commercials. I'm willing to pay (\$10 a month) for fewer commercials. In contrast, I know friends who would rather have the money rather than the commercials.

My only affiliation with XM is that I am a subscriber. I am a retired USPS worker.

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